THE VIDEO WIZARD

THE ESSENTIAL COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR VIDEO RECORDER OWNERS

MANUAL

Please refer to addendum for start-up and loading instructions.

VIDEO WIZARD™

COMMODORE OPERATING ADDENDUM

Please use this addendum to get started and load VIDEO WIZARD in your computer. After you have loaded VIDEO WIZARD please refer to your VIDEO WIZARD owner's manual.

Getting started

SETUP: In order to run VIDEO WIZARD you will need the following equipment:

- A C-64, C-64C, SX-64, C-128 (in C-64 mode) or C-128D (in C-64 mode).
- A 1541, 1571 or compatible disk drive, set up as unit 8, drive 0.
- A printer, set up as unit 4. The program can be run without a printer, but you will not have a record of data and files.
- A monitor or TV set. VIDEO WIZARD will work with a monochrome or color monitor, or with a black-and-white or color TV set.

NOTE: Please be sure you have the computer properly hooked up and are familiar with its operation. If there are any questions about the computer, please refer to your owner's manual.

Loading VIDEO WIZARD

With your computer and disk drive on and the VIDEO WIZARD program disk inserted in the drive, type in the command **LOAD "VW",8** and press the **RETURN** key.

After the computer loads the program you will see the opening logos followed by the main menu. If in 25 to 30 seconds you do not see the opening menu then repeat the above procedure or consult your Commodore owner's manual.

In addition to the instructions contained in your owner's manual, please note the following operating parameters for your Commodore VIDEO WIZARD:

Using a printer

Please remember that your printer must be *on* and *online* if you wish to print out any of the program data. If you attempt to print information and the printer is offline, the program may abort, and any new data stored in the program may be destroyed.

Selecting colors

The VIDEO WIZARD titling program will allow you to choose the text, border and background colors during the titling sequence. The program contains prompts that will guide you through this selection procedure.

Database size

The VIDEO WIZARD Commodore program will database as many as 90 videotapes, when initializing the program for tape lengths of six hours or less. The program will database at least 40 T-160 tapes.

Function keys

Please note that this program uses normal **F1**, **F2**, etc. function keys.

Data backup

Since the Commodore disk drives have been known to have their problems from time to time, the following measure has been taken to protect your valuable file information. The information that you store on your VIDEO WIZARD disks about your database is recorded on a sequential file called "VARIABLES". After you have updated the files, there will be a file on your disk called "SAFETY". This file contains the information in your database prior to your last update. If, for some reason, after repeated attempts your drive is unable to read the "VARIABLES" file from the

disk, you still have the "SAFETY" file available. To access this "SAFETY" file:

» Reset your computer and disk drives.

» Type in **LOAD "RESTORE",8** and press **RETURN.**

» Type **RUN** and press **RETURN.**

The RESTORE program will remove the faulty "VARIABLES" file and replace it with a copy of the "SAFETY" file. The "SAFETY" file will be automatically renamed "VARIABLES" so that the VIDEO WIZARD can get to the information. Of course, the information that is now in your database is information from one update back.

Hooking up to a VCR

Your computer contains a composite output that is needed to hook your computer up to your VCR for the titling portion of the VIDEO WIZARD. This composite output is the same jack that plugs into your monitor. For more information on the location and use of this jack, please refer to your Commodore owner's manual or consult your computer dealer.

Using VIDEO WIZARD

Please refer to the VIDEO WIZARD user's manual for detailed usage instructions.

Additional information

Additional labels

If you wish to purchase more labels for your videotapes, you may purchase them directly from your stationery store, or order them from us. The labels are made by Avery and are stock number 4015. They are five inches long and $^{15}/_{16}$ inches wide and come 5,000 to a box. If you wish to buy 500 of these labels from IntraCorp please send your check for $12.50 to: IntraCorp, Inc., 14160 SW 139 Ct., Miami, FL 33186, Att.: Customer Service. Remember to include your mailing address. Please allow three to four weeks for receipt of the labels.

Backups

Backup copies of the VIDEO WIZARD disk are available directly from IntraCorp. The $6 charge for the set can be paid by check, American Express (sorry, we cannot accept Visa or MasterCard phone orders), or COD. To order, write to IntraCorp, Inc., 14160 SW 139 Ct., Miami, FL 33186 or call 1-800-INTRACO (468-7226) between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern time (Monday through Friday).

Technical Support

Registered owners of this software product are entitled to technical support from our Customer Service department. If you have any problems or questions, please call Customer Service at (305) 252-9040 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern time (Monday through Friday). Please note that the warranty card that came with this product must be mailed to IntraCorp before any assistance can be given. Please allow sufficient time for the card to arrive before calling Customer Service.

Credits

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THE VIDEO WIZARD™

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CONTENTS

What Is Video Wizard 1

Main Menu 2

Instructions On Using The Video Wizard Control Menu 3

Auxiliary Menu 11

Access The Video Wizard Titling Program 18

VCR and Computer Linkup 21

Initializing Your Video Wizard Database 23

Setting Up Several Databases 25

WHAT IS THE VIDEO WIZARD?

The Video Wizard™ is a computer program allowing your Video Cassette Recorder (VCR) to take maximum advantage of your home computer. **The Video Wizard™** is fast and powerful, yet easy enough for the whole family to operate. All you need to use the program is your home computer with disk drive, and a printer (recommended but not absolutely necessary).

The Video Wizard™ keeps track of the programs you record on your video tapes, allows you to print labels for all (or single tapes), locates spaces on your videotapes to record new shows, translates tape counter settings from hours/minutes to a numerical reading or vice-versa, and allows you to create character screens on your computer and store them on your VCR.

Actually, there is even more that **The Video Wizard™** can do for you, so let's get started so you can see for yourself the uses and power of this program.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Video Wizard™ contains a sample data base to help you become more familiar with the program. This sample database should be utilized as you read through this manual. When you thoroughly understand the usage of the program, you will re-initialize this sample database to become your personal database. In order to do this you will run a program called **Begin. Do not run this Begin program until you have read over this manual. (Also see the 'Initializing Your Video Wizard database' section of the Manual)**

Since **The Video Wizard™** is published in several different computer formats (eg. IBM, Apple, Commodore, etc.) we have included specific Getting Started and Loading instructions as an addendum with this manual. Please read these instructions carefully to load **The Video Wizard™** into your computer.

Following the loading and opening graphics you will be presented with a menu of assorted functions. **The Video Wizard™** main menu will appear as below:

THE VIDEO WIZARD
1. INSTRUCTIONS ON USING THE VIDEO WIZARD
2. ACCESS YOUR VIDEO WIZARD DATABASE
3. ACCESS THE VIDEO WIZARD TITLING PROGRAM
4. EXIT THE VIDEO WIZARD
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NOTE: Certain computer types (eg. Apple) do not contain function keys (F1, F2, etc.). However, in this case you will simulate function keys by using the Control A key for F1, Control B key for F2, etc. Please see your Start-Up Addendum for more specific information particular to your computer.

This "Main Menu" contains menu selections which define the general functions available from **The Video Wizard™** program. These menu selections will be described in detail in this section. In order to select a choice from the "Main Menu", simply enter the corresponding number located to the left of the menu selection. The menu choices are as follows;

Instructions on Using **The Video Wizard™**

Access Your **Video Wizard** DataBase

Access Your **Video Wizard** Titling Program

Exit **The Video Wizard™**

Instructions on Using The Video Wizard™

Provides general instructions on how to use the program and interface with this manual.

Access Your Video Wizard DataBase

When this selection is accessed **The Video Wizard™** will read all the information about your database into the programs memory. Then it will ask you to enter the number of the month, and day of the month. (The year is automatically known and can be changed under the Begin program which we will discuss later). After the date is entered you will be presented with **The Video Wizard™** Control menu, which appears as below:

The Control menu is the menu that operates the database portion of **The Video Wizard™**. This is the menu that you will keep coming back to after any database function, and from which you can access various functions of the program. Let us now examine the selections one at a time.

IMPORTANT NOTE: As you read through the Control menu selections you will be accessing the sample database provided with **The Video Wizard™** program. Do not be concerned about modifying this database to your own specifications, because you will be shortly erasing this database and setting up your own personal VCR database. However, it will be helpful to follow along and try the various selections on the sample database before initializing for your own database.

Please Note: That all screen prompts that refer to menu in this section are referring to the Control Menu.

1. LIST ENTRIES

Selecting this menu item will list all the shows you have on your tapes. When you select "List Entries", you will be asked if you want the shows listed in order of length or in alphabetical order. It is easier to find specific shows in alphabetical lists, but when choosing programs to watch, the "order of length" option may be preferable, listing the shortest programs first.

The next prompt will ask you how your list should be categorized. (In your own database, you'll be able to define three categories for your videotapes.) Notice that in addition to the three user-defined categories, you are also given the choice of listing "Keepers" or "All-Shows". A keeper is a show that you want to retain and do not plan on erasing. Of course, the "All-Shows" selection will list out all shows saved in the database.

The next prompt will be whether or not you want the list to appear on the screen or go to the printer. If you choose the printer option make sure that your printer is turned on, and that the paper is properly inserted, and that the printer is on-line. Also be sure the paper is in alignment and that you have enough paper to print the list. This program is constructed to work with the most common printers. However, your particular printer may exhibit some printing irregularities. These are not supported by the program.

Once **The Video Wizard™** has established that your printer is ready, it will print the list requested without stopping. When finished you will be asked to press any key to return you to the menu.

2. FIND SPACE

This is the feature of **The Video Wizard™** that will save you time and money! Let's assume you have a number of tapes that have been entered into **The Video Wizard™** program. The tapes all contain a number of shows you have recorded, but also contain some blank spaces. This selection is to be used when you wish to locate a tape, and record on that tape in the blank space the show you wish to record. This selection will not only tell you where to record your show, and on what tape, but will also record that entry into the permanent database.

After accessing this selection you will be asked for the size of the space you are looking for. At the bottom of the screen, you will see some preset amounts of time that you can use by pressing the Function keys. If the amount of time is not one of the preset amounts, then you should enter it manually. **Remember, to always enter the amounts of time in hours and minutes, rather than in minutes.** For instance, an hour and 40 minutes (100 minutes) is entered as a "1" then "4" then "0". After you enter the time you need to record your show, **The Video Wizard™** will search through all of the tapes in the database to find the space you need. If there is no space available for exactly the time you need then **The Video Wizard™** will search for a larger space. Please note that **The Video Wizard™** will always look for spaces at the beginnning of the videotapes so that you do not have to fast-forward your tapes to mid-points.

After the search is completed **The Video Wizard™** will display one of the following messages: (Lets assume you asked for a space of 2 hours and 45 minutes)

a). There is a space of exactly 2:45 at x:xx on Tape xx (and then **The Video Wizard™** will let you see what else is on that tape)

b). The closest thing to a space of 2:45 is a space of x:xx on Tape xx (and then **The Video Wizard™** will let you see what else is on that tape)

c). The closest thing to a space of 2:45 if a space of 6:10 (or whatever is the full size of the tapes you are using.) The following tapes are empty: (and then it will list the empty tapes in the system)

d). There are no spaces that large in the system, and there are no empty tapes. Press F1 to find the largest empty space currently available, or any other key to return to the menu.

After **The Video Wizard™** finds a space to record your show on, you have some options. You can enter the show(s) in the newly-located space by pressing the F1 key, or you can continue the search by pressing the F3 key, or you can go back to the Control menu. The reason you may wish to continue to search, is that the space that was found by the program is too close to a show you do not want to risk erasing, or that you want to locate a space closer to the beginning of a tape.

If you wish to enter the show(s) in the space located, you will press the F1 key to make an entry and enter the shows exactly as described in the next section "Create Entries". If you enter a show that is shorter then the requested space (eg. 1 hour instead of the requested 2 hours and 45 minutes) you will be asked if you want to continue to make entries in the same space located. (Providing the remaining space is more then 30 minutes.)

3. CREATE ENTRIES

This menu selection allows you to make an entry into the database. This is the Control Menu selection you will probably want to use when you first set up and initialize your Video Wizard database. You may have found space on your tapes by using the "Find Space" selection described in item 2 above. In this case the first few steps of the create entry process are already done. However, if you are putting something in a space you have located yourself (such as at the beginning of a new and empty tape) this is also the section you will be accessing.

After accessing this selection, the screen will clear and you will see "Tape NO:" appear. You should now enter the number of the videotape you wish to record a show on. Note that if you enter a number for a tape that is not in the system (you tell the program the number of tapes in the system when you initialize) the program will not accept it. If you are entering a two digit number such as '11' or '07' it is not necessary to press Return, however if it is a one digit number, then enter the number and press the return key.

The next prompt will ask you the "Starting point:" of the show you wish to enter. Note: that if you entered this section by item #2 **Find Space** you are now at the point where these instructions apply to you.

Notice that the preset values to enter the starting time are available through the function keys. Either press one of the function keys, or enter the starting point in hours/minutes format as described previously. (eg. "245" for 2 hours and 45 minutes, rather than "165" for 165 minutes).

The next prompt will ask you for the length of the show you wish to record. (If you are entering more then one show, only enter here the length of the one show, rather than combined lengths.) Enter this length in the hours/minutes format. Note, that if there is something already entered in the time slot you have chosen, the program will not let you record over the old show until you have deleted that show from the system.

Now the screen will display the starting and ending points of the show you have indicated in both hours/minutes formats and counter number settings. Of course, you should make a note of these times and counter numbers so that you may locate this space on your VCR.

The next prompt will ask you the title of the show you wish to record. The title can be a maximum of 28 characters long. If you make a mistake in entering the title, you can use the "Del" key to omit incorrect characters. (Certain models vary and this may be the backspace key on some computers.) To make your job easier, the computer will display often-used titles available through the function keys. (You can reset these titles to your favorites with a selection on the Auxiliary menu to be discussed). Pressing any function key is the same as typing in the title next to the function key. Notice that the F1 key is always set for today's date, and the F2 key is set for tomorrow's date. This is useful since you may want to name a show by its title and date recorded (eg. "Dallas 3/18/86"). The benefit of this is that when shows are listed in either alphabetical or length order, then shows with the same title and length but with different dates are put in chronological order within the list. You can create a name and date combination by typing in the name desired (or using the function keys) and then pressing the F1 (if show is being recorded today) or F2 (if show is being recorded tomorrow) keys. Note that these date keys are automatically programmed to leave a space between the shows title and the date.

The next prompt will ask you to classify the show as one of the preselected categories (these categories are selected during the initialization of the program), or the fourth category "Keepers" which is for shows you do not plan on erasing. Use the function keys to

select the correct category. Your selection will be shown on the screen. (Note: If you select the wrong category do not worry since another menu selection will allow you to re-categorize entries).

When you have put all the information for your entry on the screen you are given the option of entering it, re-doing it, or forgetting all about it and returning to the menu. To enter the show simply press the F1 key and the program will tell you that the item was successfully entered. If you wish to redo your entry simply press the F3 key and the entry process begins again. If you wish to return to the Control menu then simply press the F5 key and you will be at the Control menu. If you came from the "Find Space" option previously described and there is still more then 30 minutes of space left, you are given the additional option of placing another show in the same space immmediately following the one you just entered.

4. DELETE ENTRIES

This section is used to delete from the database a show that you no longer want. This will allow you to use the space that the show took up to record a new show. Of course **The Video Wizard™** will immediately enter that new space in the system, and let you reutilize that space at some later point.

To delete a show enter the first few letters of the show you desire to delete. (Please be sure that you do not ignore capital letters since if your Dallas show begins with a capital "D" and you enter dallas it will not locate the show.) If there are no shows in the files beginning with the letters you have entered, **The Video Wizard™** will tell you that and give you the option of either trying again by pressing the F1 key or returning to the Control menu. When it does find the applicable show, it will give you the title of the first show it finds, and ask you to confirm that this is the show you wish to delete. To delete this show press the F1 key. To continue the search press any other key. If you decide to delete the show it will perform the deletion and then will either return you to the Control menu, or let you search for more shows to delete.

5. LOCATE ENTRIES

This is the fastest way to find a particular show you are looking for. Just enter the first few letters of the title, and the full contents of the tape containing the show you are searching for will be displayed on the screen. (Please be sure that you do not ignore capital letters since

if your Dallas show begins with a capital "D" and you enter dallas it will not locate the show.)

In the event that there is more then one show beginning with the same few letters, and that the one found is not the one you were looking for, you are given the option of finding another show with the first few letters. This is handy for episodic shows with dates at the end of the titles (eg. for soap operas with dates like "General Hospital 10/21/86" and "General Hospital 10/24/86").

6. EXAMINE/LABEL TAPES

This allows you to check out the contents of any given tape, or all of the tapes. It also allows you to print professional computer labels for all your tapes or for a single tape. Note that we have supplied labels that will fit both Beta and VHS tape formats, and that the card enclosed will enable you to purchase additional label stock from IntraCorp.

When you press this selection the program will ask you for the tape number you wish to examine or whether you wish to label or list all tapes. If you wish to examine an individual tape then enter that tape number and the program will display the entire contents of the tape, along with the total empty space available on that tape. If you wish to examine an additional tape then you should press the F1 key. However, if you wish to make a label for this specific tape, then insert the labels supplied into your printer and make sure that your printer is turned on, and that the label stock is properly inserted and positioned (positioning for your particular printer may take several tries), and that the printer is on-line. .This program is constructed to work with the most common printers. However, your particular printer may exhibit some printing irregularities. These are not supported by the program.

If you wish to examine all tapes in the system please press the F1 key and the program will let you list the tapes to either the screen or printer. Again, if you are using the print option please be sure that your printer is turned on and on-line and that paper is properly inserted into the printer. The printer will print the entire list of tapes and then return you to the Control Menu.

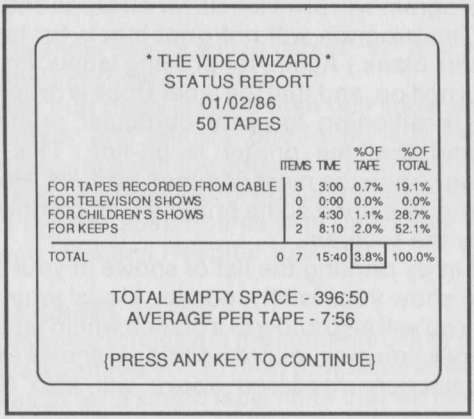
If you wish to print labels for all tapes in the system please press the F2 key and the program will print labels for all tapes entered into the system. (Note: The program will not print labels for tapes that the program considers blank.) Again, for printing labels, make sure that your printer is turned on, and that the label stock is properly inserted and positioned (positioning for your particular printer may take several tries), and that the printer is on-line. This program is constructed to work with the most common printers. However, your particular printer may exhibit some printing irregularities. These are not supported by the program.

Please note that by printing the list of shows in your system, you will have a list to show your family, guests, etc. of your entire video tape collection. You will also know at a glance which tapes are empty and on which tapes you may record additional shows (although the "Find Space" selection discussed above will also tell you this information).

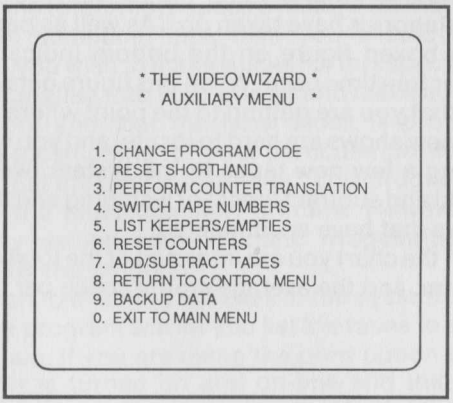
7. STATUS REPORT

This selection lets you see at a glance just how occupied your program and videotapes are. It displays the current date and number of tapes currently in your system on the top line, and then displays for each of your selected categories (plus keepers) the total time recorded (in hours and minutes) and the percentage of total tape time that these categories have taken up. (As well as percentages of total times). The boxed figure on the bottom indicates the total percentage of your free time used. When this figure gets above 85% it probably means that you are getting to the point where good empty spaces to record new shows are hard to locate, and you should either think about adding a few new tapes to the system (we will shortly discuss how to add and subtract tapes) or watching and then deleting some of the shows that have accumulated.

At the bottom of the chart you are informed of the total empty "free" space in the system, and the average empty space per tape.


* THE VIDEO WIZARD *
STATUS REPORT
01/02/86
50 TAPES
ITEMS TIME %OF TAPE %OF TOTAL
FOR TAPES RECORDED FROM CABLE 3 3:00 0.7% 19.1%
FOR TELEVISION SHOWS 0 0:00 0.0% 0.0%
FOR CHILDREN'S SHOWS 2 4:30 1.1% 28.7%
FOR KEEPS 2 8:10 2.0% 52.1%
TOTAL 0 7 15:40 3.8% 100.0%
TOTAL EMPTY SPACE - 396:50
AVERAGE PER TAPE - 7:56
{PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE}

8. AUXILIARY MENU (EXIT)



This selection will access **The Video Wizard™** Auxiliary menu pictured above. We will shortly explain the usage of the 10 selections on this menu. Please note that this selection must also be accessed to

Exit to the Main Menu. After selecting the Auxiliary menu you merely press the O choice on the Auxiliary menu and you will be back at the Main menu.

9. UPDATE FILES

This is a very important selection. By now you may have noticed that the computer disk drive is not really accessed while using the program. This is because the entire program is loaded into memory for ease of operation and efficiency. **However, if you simply turn off your computer all data will be erased from the active memory and any additions, deletions, etc. will be lost. Thus, whenever you make any changes in the program, you must update your files.**

After you have made changes to the program you will note that this menu selection becomes highlighted. If this selection is not highlighted and is accessed, you will be told that no changes have been made to the program, and you will be returned to the Control Menu. If changes have been made and you access this selection, you must make sure that your Video Wizard diskette is still in your disk drive and that the drive door is shut. The program will keep you informed the update is being made and then return you to the Control menu when the update is complete.

If you see an error message on the screen while updating, please reinsert the disk, and if possible turn off your drive **(but do not turn off the computer)** and attempt the update again.

0. TOGGLE BELL

For the purpose of alerting you to important functions of the program, a Bell noise has been included in the program. When you access the program the Bell noise is on. If you wish to turn this Bell off, simply select this menu selection. If you wish the Bell to come back on, again select this menu selection. In each case the program will tell you the current on or off status of the Bell.

AUXILIARY MENU ITEMS

1. CHANGE PROGRAM CODE

This allows you to change the way a show is categorized. For instance if a show is listed and categorized as a "Children's Program", and then you fall in love with this show and wish to reclassify it as a "Keeper" you can change the show's category by using this selection.

After accessing this selection, the program will ask you for the program's name or partial name. (Please be sure that you do not ignore capital letters since if your Dallas show begins with a capital "D" and you enter "dallas" it will not locate the show.) Once you have located the show you want to recategorize, press the F1 key. The program will now prompt you to enter the new category by pressing one of the F keys. Once your selection has been made the program will let you know that the show has been recategorized and ask you if you wish to make anymore changes. If you do, press the F1 key. If you are finished then press any key to return to the Control Menu.

2. RESET SHORTHAND

This section was referred to earlier in the manual. This is the section that will allow you to specify what shows you always want listed on the bottom of the entry screens. Remember, the F1 and F2 keys will always represent the current date, and the next day's date. The rest of the keys, though, are definable with this selection.

When you access this selection the program will ask you which of the F keys you wish to reset. Press the key that you wish to change (or enter a * if you have decided not to change anything) and then reenter the new show name for the corresponding F key. When you have finished entering your show names for the F keys, then simply press the return key. You will be returned back to the Control Menu. (Note: You may wish to define some F keys as parts of titles such as the word "The" or the word"A".)

3. PERFORM COUNTER TRANSLATION

This selection allows you to make sense out of the counter numbers located on your VCR. First, you should remember that the counter numbers will seem meaningless unless your tapes are

inserted and totally rewound, **and then the counter is reset to zero.** After this is done, and the counters have been properly setup with **The Video Wizard™** program (this is done during program initialization or under Auxiliary Selection 6.), you can translate these numbers into an Hours/Minutes format and visa-versa.

After selecting this option you will be asked to press F1 to translate from numbers to Hours/Minutes, and F3 to translate from Hours/Minutes to Numbers. If you wish to exit back to the Auxiliary Menu then press the F5 key.

If electing to translate from numbers to hours and minutes, you should enter the time as a three digit number (for instance '135' for an hour and 35 minutes), or press the assorted functions that correspond to various preset times. Within seconds you will be given the numeric counter equivalent of the time specified.

If electing to translate from counter numbers to the Hours/Minutes format, you will be asked to enter the counter number you wish to translate. Note that if you enter a number exceeding the numbers your counter would display, then the program will ignore it and return you to the translation menu. You will then be given the Hours/Minutes equivalent of the selected number. After completion of translations you will be returned back to the Auxiliary Menu.

4. SWITCH TAPE NUMBERS

This selection gives you the option of having the program switch numbers between tapes. For instance if you have one tape with several shows on it (lets say tape #10), and another tape that is blank (tape #12), you can now have the program switch these numbers and consider tape #12 as the tape with shows on it, and tape #10 as the blank tape. This is useful if you are putting in and removing tapes from the system, and wish the program to reassign one tape as another.

When accessing this selection you will be asked for the number of the first tape you want to switch. After this number is entered you will be asked for the second number of the tapes you want to switch. After this number is entered, the program will tell you that the tapes have been switched. It will also return you to the Control Menu.

5. LIST KEEPERS/EMPTIES

This selection will provide you a list of which tapes contain

"keepers" (shows that you do not wish to erase), and which tapes are empty.

When accessing this selection, pressing the F1 key will give you a list of tapes that exclusively have "keepers", but also contain other categories of shows.

Pressing any key when accessing this selection will give you a list of tapes that are empty. This information is important in deciding where to record your next shows on.

After completing your selections you will be returned back to the Control Menu.

6. RESET COUNTERS

In order to make sure that the program is correctly translating your VCR's counter numbers, it is necessary to initialize, and sometimes reset the program for your particular type of tape counters.

There are two types of counter mechanisms found on VCR's. (This is the case whether your counter is a mechanical (older type) or new electronic (LCD) counter.) For the purposes herein we will refer to these counter types as Type A or Type B. If you have a Type A counter, the counters count the revolutions of the feeding hub of the VCR tapes, and if you have Type B, the counters count the revolutions of the takeup hub.

It is easy to find out which type of counter you have on your particular machine. If you have Type A, the counters should increse far less for the first half hour than they do for the last half hour. For instance, a Type A machine will go from 0000-240 (a difference of 240) in the first one half hour, but it will go from 3737-4370 (a difference of 633) in the last one half hour. If your machine has a Type B counter the reverse will be true. (The counters will increase far more for the first half hour than they do in the last half hour).

You must know what type of counter your machine has (Type A or B) before initializing **The Video Wizard™**. You should play or record a show from the beginning of a tape with the counters set to 0. Then, in the first and last half hours of the tape notice the tape settings. Finally, using the information above determine whether you have a Type A or B machine. It would be wise to write this information down for further reference.

After discovering your type of counter, you will need to know the range of the counter. To find this out insert a fully rewound tape of the same type you will be using with the program (VHS or Beta 60-90-120, etc. tapes) and reset your counter to zero. Fast forward your tape to the end, and make a note of the highest number the tape counter reaches.

With the information above, you may reset **The Video Wizard's™** tape counter settings. You will not have to do this if you have correctly initialized the program, but will want to do it if the counter numbers the Program is giving you are not the correct numbers, or you have purchased a new machine.

When accessing this menu selection you will be asked for the range number of your counter. Enter this number (or enter 0 if you wish to exit to the Control Menu), and you will be asked which counter type you have. Press 1 for counter Type A, and 2 for counter Type B. The program will now properly reset your counters. (Note: if you cannot ascertain which counter Type you have, you may enter either Type, and if the corresponding numbers seem incorrect then use this Menu selection to reset the program for the other Type of counter.) After this selection is made the program will return you to the Control Menu.

7. ADD/SUBTRACT TAPES

This selection will allow you to change the number of tapes in your system. If you started with 10 tapes and find (perhaps from the status report) that the tapes have too many shows on them, then you should buy some more blank tapes and enter them into the system. (Note: Please see your addendum for information on how many tapes your system can store.) If many of the tapes in your system are blank and you want to decrease the number of tapes, the same is true.

When accessing this selection the program will tell you how many tapes are currently in the system. If you wish to add tapes simply type in the number of tapes you wish to add (for instance the number 4 to add four tapes). If you wish to subtract tapes type in a negative number corresponding to the number of tapes you wish to subtract (eg. -6 for six tapes). The program will now tell you the new number of tapes in the system. The program will also update the status report to

reflect these tapes. At the end of this process you should press enter to return to the Control menu. (Note: you may want to use Auxiliary selection #4 to switch the tape numbers and arrange your tapes so that the empties are numbered at the end.)

8. RETURN TO CONTROL MENU

This selection will return you to the Control menu, and allow you to access the selections previously enumerated.

9. BACKUP DATA

Important Note: Before creating backups, or reading in backups, you must Update your files (press #9 selection on Control menu). If you fail to update your files before a Backup, all information you have entered into the program may be lost.

This selection will allow you to make an 'emergency' backup copy of all information contained in the program. This feature will also allow you to operate several databases with the program. You may want to separately set up one database for one kind of video tapes (eg. tapes that are of a certain length), and other databases for video tapes of a particular type (eg. your cable television collection). We will discuss how to use the backup feature to have multiple databases, in the section ('Initializing Your Video Wizard database') of the manual.

When you access this section the program will prompt you to press F1 to create a backup of information currently in memory (your emergency copy) or F3 to read a backup into the program (your other databases).

To create a backup press the F1 key and then remove the Video Wizard Program disk from your drive. (The backup file will be named "variables" on your disk directory). Insert the formatted disk that you wish the backup to reside on and then press any key. **The Video Wizard™** is now backing up your data. After **The Video Wizard™** is through with the backup it will prompt you to reinsert **The Video Wizard™** Program disk. You will then be returned to the Control menu. Please store the backup copy in a safe place.

To read in a backup copy press the F3 key. **The Video Wizard™** will now instruct you to remove the Program disk and insert the disk which the backup resides on. After reading the backup, you will be instructed to reinsert your Program disk. You will then be returned to

the Control Menu. Please note that after reading a backup, the database you will be working with will be the database stored on the backup copy and not the database that is stored on your Program disk. Please be sure that **you do not Update your files with the Program disk in the drive** or you will replace whatever information was on the Program disk with Updated Backup information. Thus, when you are ready to make an Update (or exit the program) you should remove the Program disk and replace it with the Backup disk and let the Update occur on the Backup Disk. Of course, if you have backed up the information on the Program disk you will not care about 'overwriting' this information.

In summary, it is very important to protect Video Wizard data by creating backup copies. However, when reading in backups, please be very careful that you do not later 'overwrite' the information on your Program disk.

0. EXIT TO THE MAIN MENU

This is the only way to get from **The Video Wizard™** to the Main Menu of the program. This Exit selection will check to see if you need to update your files before exiting, and will perform this Update if required. After the update (if required) you will be returned to the Main Menu of the Program.

Access The Video Wizard™ Titling Program

This section of the program allows you to utilize your home computer as a sophisticated character generator. You can create screens with character lettering, position the characters in any location on the screen, pick the size of characters you wish to view, pick the color of the text, select a border for the screen, and even link up to 10 screens together. (Some formats, depending on memory, will link only 5 screens). These linked screens can then be displayed in any order desired, and for as many seconds (up to 5 minutes per screen) desired. Once your creation is made, you can electronically transfer the screens from your computer to your VCR.

Please note that certain computer types (eg. IBM, Atari) may require certain hardware boards and video outputs to perform this titling and transfer. Please refer to the Addendum that comes with this manual to find out the particular requirements of your computer.

Also note that some computers types can perform some additional coloring functions then are mentioned here and additional prompts will appear on the screen. Again, please refer to your Addendum for specifics.

When accessing this selection from the Main Menu you will be given an initial set of instructions explaining how to use this program. After reading these instructions please press any key to continue.

You are now in the Create section of the program. The page number (or screen number) is indicated on the far top right hand side of the screen. A locator bar is on the top left side of the screen. This bar indicates your line position on the screen. The bottom line of the screen prompts you to enter either a small or large size text line. Note that you may also enter characters on this line. Type in anything on this line and press enter. You will see that it appears centered on the screen to the right of the locator bar. If you do not wish the line to be centered please type spaces before (or after) the line. If you wish to toggle between small and large size text fonts then you merely press the Control and S keys at the same time. The character size will now change between small (and large) letter styles.

You may enter several lines on the screen. As you enter the lines, you will note that the locator bar moves down. When you have entered the last line the locator bar will be at the bottom of the screen. The program will now prompt you to tell it if the creation is ok or you wish to redo it. If you are not happy with this creation, the redo procedure is the same as the original creation procedure.

After creating the first screen (and telling the program that you are happy with the screen by typing a Y) the program will ask if you wish more screens created. Type Y to create more screens, and N if this is your last screen. The creation procedure for additional screens is identical to the first screen. (You will note each additional screen you create will be numbered on the upper right side of the screen. It is a good idea to keep track of these numbers and the screens they represent, so you can later decide on the display sequence.)

After creating the number of screens you desire (or the maximum allowed) you will be prompted with a message that details how many screen you have stored. This message will also ask you to choose between Automatic and Manual display of the screens. Automatic

display means that you will preset each screen to appear in the order desired for the number of seconds desired (up to 300 seconds). Manual selection means that you will have to hit the space bar to make each screen appear in the order that you designated. Please type 'M' to signify Manual selection, and 'A' to signify Automatic selection.

You will now be prompted for the first screen number you wish to have displayed. If you wish a blank screen to appear then type in a 0. You will then be asked if you want a screen border. Type 'Y' for a border to surround your creation, and 'N' if you do not wish your creation displayed with a border. You will be then asked the color you wish the text. Please press the space bar until you have the color on the screen (on some formats this color will be simultaneously displayed on the color monitor) that you desire. When you have located the color desired please press the return (or enter) key.

If you have selected an Automatic display sequence the program will now ask you how many seconds you wish this screen to be displayed for. Type in this number and press then return (or enter) key. (Of course if you selected Manual display this prompt would not appear). You will now be asked to enter the same information (screen number, border selection, text color, and display time) for the second screen you wish to display. Enter this information as previously mentioned. This process of screen entries will continue until you have 'scheduled' for display all your created screens. When you have completed the display selection, press return (or enter) at the screen number prompt. The program will now ask if all is Ok or you want to redo the display sequence. If all is Ok then type a 'Y', if you wish to redo then type a 'N'. If you type an 'N' you must follow the above instructions to redo your screen display sequence.

After you tell the program that you are ready to display the screens (by typing as 'Y') the program will give you further instructions. You must make sure that your computer is connected to your VCR. (See the next section of this manual entitled 'VCR and Computer Linkup' for connection instructions. After the computer is connected to the VCR, locate on your VCR the exact space on your video tape where you wish the title screens to be recorded. (You may want to consult your VCR owners manual to find the best way to find spaces on your tapes, and how to play and record tapes.)

Now make sure that your VCR is in the record and then pause mode. Press the space bar on your computer once and the screen will go blank. Now release the pause mode to start your recorder. Again hit the space bar on your computer. The screens will now be displayed on your computer (if your computer monitor is still plugged in) and transferred to your home VCR. In the manual mode you must press the space bar to display each stored screen. In the Automatic mode, the entire display sequence will occur, and the screen will then go blank.

When the display sequence has ended (the screen will be blank) you should immediately put your recorder in the pause mode again. You must now press the space bar, to get back into the program. The program will now ask you if you wish the display sequence repeated. If you wish to repeat the sequence then type 'Y'. If you wish to change the sequence or exit the program then type 'N'. The program will now ask you if you wish to change the sequence. If you wish to change the sequence type 'Y'. The program will now ask you if you wish to create a new sequence. If you wish to create a new sequence type "Y". You will now be back in the original screen display prompts. If you wish to Exit the program or create a new sequence type 'Y'. If you type 'Y' you will be back in the original display screen prompts. If you wish to Exit the program type 'N'. You will be returned to the Main Menu.

VCR AND COMPUTER LINKUP

The Video Wizard™titling program will allow you to create titling screens on your computer, and transfer these screens to your VCR. The previous section discusses creation of these screens. Lets now discuss how to link up your VCR and Home Computer.

First, keep in mind that your computer may need a special hardware graphics board to perform the translation. The addendum that accompanies this manual will tell you if your computer has the required hardware board, and video output to perform the transfer.

In order to link your computer to your VCR you will need a cable (commonly available) that has RCA video jacks on both ends. This is the same type of cable that you would use to hook up two video

recorders (for dubbing tapes). If you do not have this cable, then we suggest you check with the store you bought your VCR for information on where the cable is available. Next, you will need to understand the operation of your VCR. Please consult your VCR owner's manual and study the section relating to Recording with Pause, Tape Inserts, and Video Dubbing.

Now hook the RCA cable from the composite video output of your computer (this is usually the jack that connects your computer to your monitor), to the Video **input** of your Video Recorder. (Again your computer owner's manual or computer dealer can be of assistance in locating the video composite output). Please make sure when making these connections that you are using the **Video output and not the Audio output.**

Now lets see if your machines are hooked up properly. Put the VCR into the record mode with the Video In signal connected (this will mean that you have disconnected the VCR's tuner.) (Please see your VCR manual for how to turn on your VCR's Video input Jack.) You should now be able to record the signals coming from the computer. Once you have established that the VCR is hooked properly to the computer you are ready to proceed. Using your tape counter, or VCR locate feature, locate the space on the tape where you plan on placing your computer created titles. Now put the VCR in the record/pause (or stop mode) and refer to the previous section for instructions on creating your titling screens.

Please note: If you are not able to hook your VCR to your computer, but have a Video Camera (or camcorder), your titling screens can be recorded by the camera from the CRT. This recording technique may take a little practice, but the results can be interesting.

Exit The Video Wizard™.

This main menu selection will allow you to exit **The Video Wizard™**, and go back to the operating system of your computer. From this system you will be ready to run other programs.

INITIALIZING YOUR VIDEO WIZARD™ DATABASE

As previously discussed **The Video Wizard™** comes supplied with a sample database so that you can become more familiar with **The Video Wizard™** operational features. Once you understand how to run **The Video Wizard™**, you are ready to proceed to initialize your own database.

Place **The Video Wizard™** program disk into the drive and exit the program from the Main Menu. Now as per the addendum instructions load the program on the disk called "Begin".(Loading instructions vary from computer format to format).

Your should now see a chart displaying the various types and lengths of video tapes, and various recording speeds that your VCR can operate in. Please keep mind that **The Video Wizard™** database requires that you always record your tapes at the same speed and use the same length of tape. Of course, you can set up different Video Wizard Databases for different tape lengths and speeds. However, each database may only be for one type of tape (eg. a VHS T-120) recorded at one speed (eg. the slowest EP speed).

Most individuals use only the faster, higher quality speeds for shows that they want to keep, and slower speeds for shows they are constantly erasing. Since, **The Video Wizard™** is designed for constant show deletions and additions, you will probably want to consider setting up your database for the slower tape speeds and with longer tape lengths.

You should now select your tape type, and recording speed from the chart. Please indicate your choice to the program by typing in the corresponding letter from A-N. The program will now allow you to verify your choice by pressing the F1 key. The program will now let you classify your tapes into three categories. The fourth category is always defined as "Keepers", for tapes that you do not want to erase.

You should give some thought to the classification of these categories, since at least one of your categories must be applicable to any show you are going to record. A suggestion may be to set up one category as "Other or Miscl.", if you always want a category to apply to various titles. You may now enter your categories in upper and lower case characters. After entering the categories, press F1 to confirm that they have been properly entered. Now, enter a maximum

5 digit abbreviation (in upper or lower case characters) for each of the categories.

You will now enter the last two digits of the current year (eg. '86') and how many tapes you want the system to keep track of. (Please see your addendum for the maximum number of tapes the program can handle in one database). Remember, that you do not want to enter too many tapes in the database, unless you are going to use them to record shows. It is better to just enter the smallest number of tapes you will need, and then when you need more tapes, to add these tapes (as per Auxiliary Menu Selection #7) to the system.

The program will now confirm the information that you have entered into the system. If this information is correct, press the F1 key. If the information is not correct please press any other key to redo this information. Please note that once you press F1 your sample database will be erased and your new personal database will be installed.

You will now be asked to set the counters. Please refer to Auxiliary Menu Item #6 as previously discussed, to enter your maximum tape counter range number, and your type of counter (A or B). When this information has been entered, **The Video Wizard™** will inform you that your data files are now ready. This means you can now start using **The Video Wizard™**!

SETTING UP SEVERAL DATABASES

As discussed previously, you may want to use **The Video Wizard™** to control several databases of your tapes. (For instance to organize tapes that are recorded at Slow speeds, and tapes that are recorded at High speeds.) Here is how to set up several databases.

Format a blank disk for each Video Wizard database you plan on running. Label the disks to describe the type of database you plan on storing on the disks (eg. only T-180 tapes). Then insert your Video Wizard Program disk into your disk drive. Load the Begin program on the disk as per your addendum's instructions. After you have made all your selections for the Initialization process (see previous section), **but before you confirm these selections by pressing the F1 key,** remove the program disk and insert one of the formatted disks. Now press the F1 key to confirm your selections. **The Video Wizard™** is now setting up this database on your blank diskette. After **The Video Wizard™** instructs you that your data files are on your blank diskette, you may remove this diskette from the computer and place in the original Video Wizard Program disk. If you want to set up more Video Wizard databases, then repeat the above process.

To run a separate database, you have to load **The Video Wizard™** program, as per previous instructions **and with the original program disk in the drive.** You then must read in your separate Video Wizard database (the one you created on the blank formatted disk) by following the instructions under Auxiliary Menu selection #9. After your database is read in, you may start entering data into **The Video Wizard™**.

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